



Wallowa-Whitman National Forest

## OUTREACH

### 0301 External Relations Staff Officer Baker City, OR

#### ***About the Position***

The Wallowa-Whitman National Forest will soon be filling the External Relations Staff Officer, GS-0301-13, position located in Baker City, OR.

This position works for the Forest Supervisor and is member of the Forest Leadership Team. The External Relations Staff Officer manages and supervises the Forest programs for Heritage, Planning, Minerals, Public Affairs, Budget, and Administration. The position is responsible for oversight and leadership to those programs and disseminating the information to other staff officers and the Forest Leadership Team. The position also works closely with the Regional office in these program areas and in addition to neighboring Forests.

#### ***The Forest***

The Wallowa-Whitman National Forest is one of the largest forests in Region 6 with four Ranger Districts and one National Recreation Area, managed by three District Rangers. The Forest covers more than 2.3 million acres in three states and nine counties.

The Forest hosts three units in the communities of La Grande, Joseph, and Baker City, Oregon. There are two satellite offices located in Riggins, Idaho and Clarkston, Washington. The Blue Mtn Interagency Dispatch Center is located in La Grande and is staffed by employees from the Umatilla and Wallowa-Whitman National Forests and Oregon Department of Forestry. The Forest Leadership Team is comprised of three district rangers, a deputy district ranger, four staff officers (external relations, engineering, natural resources, and fire), as well as the Forest Safety Officer, Deputy Forest Supervisor, and Forest Supervisor.

For more information about the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest access the Forest Website at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/wallowa-whitman>

#### ***The Community***

Surrounded to the west by the Elkhorn Mountains and to the northeast by the Wallowa Mountains, Baker City has an elevation of approximately 3,500 feet. It is located on Interstate 84 within 2 hours of the Tri Cities in Southeast Washington (Pasco, Richland, and Kennewick) and within 2 hours of Boise, Idaho. The population of Baker City

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is approximately 10,000.

House rentals range from \$700 per month and up. Apartment rentals start at \$400. Utility rates tend to be low. Average prices for 3 or 4 bedroom homes range from \$90,000 to \$200,000 plus.

Baker City is a full service community. Eastern Oregon University, which offers 4-year degree programs in 22 areas, is located 45 miles to the west in La Grande, Oregon. Blue Mountain Community College, offering various 2-year degree programs is located in Pendleton, Oregon (95 miles to the northwest) and has a Remote Learning Center in Baker City; and Treasure Valley Community College, offering various 2-year degree programs is located in Ontario, Oregon (65 miles to the southeast). There are 2 elementary schools, 1 middle school, and 1 high school located in Baker City. The School District has a record of educational excellence. Overall, results from the Oregon Statewide Assessment show that students in the Baker School District are above the state averages. In addition, there are 3 private or Christian schools available.

Baker City has a newly remodeled 40-bed hospital with several local physicians, dentists, and specialists available.

Cultural opportunities include live local theater, vocal and instrumental performances, art galleries, Oregon Trail Interpretive Center, history museums, Miner's Jubilee, and a full calendar of special community events. The newly expanded Baker County Library contains 91,000 volumes with access to library resources statewide and an interlibrary loan system that provides access to an unlimited number of publications nationwide.

Baker City enjoys a dry climate with four distinct seasons. The weather changes from snowfall in the winter to warm dry days in the summer. Recreational opportunities abound with such activities as golfing, fishing, biking, skiing, boating, hunting, and beautiful scenery. Located on the Forest are the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area, several wilderness areas, numerous lakes, and 58 campgrounds and picnic areas.

Interested applicants or those needing further information can contact Chuck Oliver, Deputy Forest Supervisor at 541-523-1203 or email [coliver01@fs.fed.us](mailto:coliver01@fs.fed.us).